



~~SECRET~~

Classification

Department of State
TELEGRAM

2809

CN: 2809

29 APR 70
1825

INDICATE:

☐ COLLECT

☐ CHARGE TO

AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO

POL-23-8

DISTRIBUTION

AMB
DCM
MINECON
POL 2
POL/R
USIS
SCI
ECON
E/COML
DAO 3
MILGP 2
CF

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4536

INFO: AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 5963
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 4785
USCINCSO FOR POLAD

RIO DE JANEIRO 2809

SUBJECT: GOB ATTITUDE TORTURE ISSUE

REF: STATE 62203

1. [REDACTED] RE 1ST ARMY G-2'S UNANNOUNCED INSPECTIONS OF
DETENTION FACILITIES. [REDACTED] ("POLICE OFFICIAL
COMMENTS ON TORTURE") CONTAIN ONLY REFERENCES EMB HAS SEEN TO DATE
POSSIBLE GOB INVESTIGATION TORTURE ALLEGATIONS. EMB ATTEMPTING DEVELOP
FURTHER DETAILS LATTER REPORT. WHAT ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE VERIFY OR
REFUTE INTERNATIONAL PRESS REPORTS HAVE BEEN AT INSTIGATION NON-GOVERN-
MENT ENTITIES, E.G. NATIONAL COUNCIL BISHOPS THROUGH PAPAL COMMISSION
JUSTICE AND PEACE. LATTER WAS GROUP WHICH REPORTEDLY NEGOTIATED AT
BEGINNING YEAR WITH IRC IN EUROPE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH GOB (IN
PERSON BUZAID) IN ATTEMPT AFFECT NON-PUBLICIZED INVESTIGATION AND
POSSIBLE RESOLUTION PROBLEM. (SEE RIO'S A-101, FEB. 25)

2. EMB HAS HEARD NOTHING FURTHER THIS EFFORT. [REDACTED]

DRAFTED BY: POL: [REDACTED]
REL: Johnson: ael

DRAFTING DATE
4/29/70

TEL. EXT.

APPROVED BY: [REDACTED]
POL: [REDACTED]

CLEAR

EO50x1

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Classification

FORM FS-413(H)
4-68

Declassified Authority: 43265 By:
Amanda Weimer Date: 05-01-2015



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AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO

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ACTION:

EO50x1

TWO IRC OFFICIALS WERE REPORTED IN EARLY APRIL PRESS TO BE ON VERGE ARRIVING BRAZIL TO "LOOK INTO ALLEGATIONS OF GENOCIDE AGAINST INDIANS." NOTHING FURTHER HEARD OF REPORT. EMB THUS UNABLE CATEGORICALLY STATE NOTHING SO FAR HAS COME PROPOSED HOWEVER INSPECTION, BUT CANDIDO MENDES (EO50x1) OUT OF BRAZIL ENTIRE MONTH APRIL ATTENDING OSAKA FAIR AND NOT DUE BACK AND/ UNTIL SECOND WEEK MAY, SINCE HE ~~PERSONAL~~ PERSONALLY CONDUCTED TALKS WITH IRC IN EUROPE, IT DIFFICULT CONCEIVE PLANS MOVING AHEAD HIS ABSENCE.

3. ONLY OFFICIAL NOTICE GOB HAS MADE OF ISSUE WAS MINJUS BUZAIID'S DECEMBER 1969 DENIAL EXISTENCE TORTURE BRAZIL AND STATEMENT THAT GOB DID NOT CONDONE ITS USE. UNTIL TODAY THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE MENTION OF TORTURE QUESTION IN BRAZIL PRESS AT ALL, EXCEPT FOR BRIEF REFERENCES TO FOREIGN CAMPAIGN TO "DEFAME BRAZIL". GOVT HAS MOVED TO ARREST FON MIN EMPLOYEES CHARGED WITH PASSING DEROGATORY INFORMATION TO FOREIGN PRESS.

4. PRESS APRIL 29 (ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, JORNAL DO BRASIL) GIVES EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO DEBATE ON THIS QUESTION IN

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FORM
4-68 FS-413(H)



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Classification

Department of State
TELEGRAM

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INDICATE:

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ACTION:

FEDERAL CONGRESS IN BRASILIA. DEBATE ON KENNEDY MONTANA SPEECH
HAS TURNED INTO FREE-SWINGING DISCUSSION OF QUESTION OF VIOLENCE
IN BRAZIL, WITH MDB OPPOSITION LEADERS VIANA AND LUCENA CALLING
ON PRES. MEDICI TO LAUNCH INVESTIGATION AND PADILLA, GOVERNMENT LEADER
IN HOUSE, CHALLENGING OPPOSITION TO PRODUCE SPECIFICS AND GUARANTEEING
THAT GOVERNMENT WOULD PUNISH TORTURERS IF THEY EXIST (EMBASSY REPORTING
FURTHER DETAILS ON DEBATE SEPARATELY); WHETHER THIS DISCUSSION WILL
ELICIT SOME OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON SUBJECT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

ELBRICK

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